



University of Tennessee, Knoxville

## TRACE: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange

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BESS Newsletter

Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science  
Publications and Other Works

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6-1-2009

### BESS 6/1/2009

Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Sciences

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## TOP STORIES

[USDA/AFRI Integrated Programs webpage](#)

[CSREES Announces Multicultural Scholars Program \(MSP\) Funding](#)

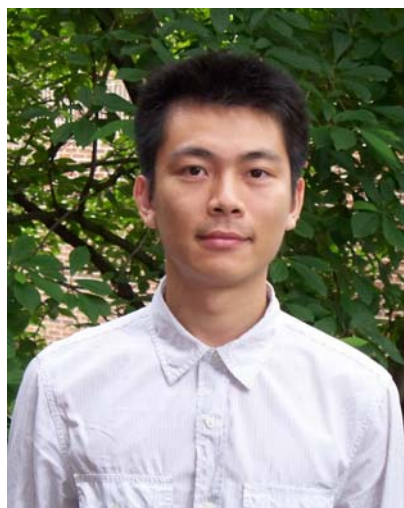
[Office of Research Funding Opportunities Listservs](#)

[Announcing BESS News Captioning Contest – See our first photo!](#)

## STUDENT PROFILES



**Tim Carter**



**Yaohua Huang**

We have two new graduate students in BESS this summer. One is Yaohua Huang, who is a Graduate Research Assistant for Philip Ye. He is in the MS Biosystems Engineering program and hopes to work on the mechanisms of using high pressure to sterilize food instead of high temperature, as high temperatures remove some nutritional qualities from food. He came to UT because he found Dr. Ye's research on the web and was very interested in his work. Yaohua has come from China and finds Knoxville to be quiet and friendly, and that UT is a perfect place for study and research.

Timothy Carter is in the MS Biosystems Engineering Technology program, as a Graduate Research Assistant for Hugh Savoy. Tim comes to us from Jackson, MS, where he has been working for 3 years while his wife finished her law degree. Tim's BS is from Georgia in Environmental Health & Safety, with emphasis on Industrial Hygiene. He has discovered that Environmental Health & Safety is not exactly where he wants to be, having found that research and extension work interests him much more. Tim's decision to come to UT was based partly on the enriched education available here, as well as the local scenery and friendly people. He and his wife are hoping to put down deep roots here.

We welcome both Yaohua and Tim, and wish them both the best in their new adventures!

--- Margaret Taylor

### From the Department Head:

We have some very good news to share about our two BsE senior design teams. First we learned that our entry "Powered Foldable ROPS" was selected by judges of the AGCO National Student Design Competition as one of the top three entries in the written portion of the competition. This team, comprised of John Kruckeberg, Mitch Groothuis, William Nichols, Abdoulaye Samba and Chase Shaver, and advised by Dr. Paul Ayers, was previously recognized as one of the top three entries from the College of Engineering in the UT Office of Research Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (EURēCA) exhibition.

We next learned that the Denitrification team, comprised of Crystal Kelly, Ken Swinson, and Will Rutemeyer, and advised by Dr. John Buchanan, ranked in the top three for their report score in the G. B. Gunlogson Environmental Design Competition.

Both teams have been invited to participate in the oral portion of the competitions during the ASABE Annual International Meeting in Reno, Nevada, June 21-24. We wish them well in the national competition.

-- Eric

## MORE NEWS – CLICK BELOW

**BESS**

**Students**

**CASNR**

**Research**

**Extension**

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THE UNIVERSITY of  
**TENNESSEE** **UT**  
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**BE THE  
 BESS**  
 BIOSYSTEMS ★ ENGINEERING ★ SOIL SCIENCE  
**YOU CAN BE**

Please submit items to Darla O'Neill [doneill1@utk.edu](mailto:doneill1@utk.edu)  
 BESS NEWS is issued on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. Archived issues post to [departmental website](#).  
 To subscribe (or unsubscribe), email [doneill1@utk.edu](mailto:doneill1@utk.edu)



## **Volunteers Without Borders!**

Soil science faculty members, Neal Eash and Forbes Walker recently returned from a two week trip with over 20 students and faculty from several Departments from the Ag as well as the main campus.

The group spent the first week working in the village of La Fortuna in western Guatemala where they worked to protect a spring that serves about 25 families, built a vegetable garden at the local school and installed several smokeless stoves that greatly reduce wood consumption and reduce exposure to smoke.

After their hard work in La Fortuna, the group traveled to Lake Atitlan for a few days R & R. They then traveled north to see the Mayan ruins at Tikal before spending a day in Antigua visiting the site of the former capital of Guatemala and a local coffee plantation.



Re-plumbing and protecting a spring - to provide clean water for 25 families



## More photos from “Volunteers without Borders” trip to Guatemala



Some of the team who helped with the vegetable beds - planted and protected with a bamboo fence



Pictured is the first smokeless stove which was so well liked by the villagers that 46 more have been ordered!





## Volunteers Without Borders trip:

Left: Visiting the Mayan ruins at Tikal - why did they make them so tall?

Below: Now where are we? Neal Eash "navigating" somewhere in Guatemala





# BESS NEWS

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## **Announcing the debut of the BESS News Caption Contest!**

Submit your caption entry to Darla O'Neill by **June 12.**

Future captioning opportunities will appear in upcoming issues.

Also please send contest photo entries to Darla O'Neill.

Winners from each issue will be entered for the Best Photo and Caption for 2009 and receive a **"special"** prize at our Holiday Party!



Our Caption: "Neal Eash leads the group for a tour of Lake Atitlan in Guatemala"

***Thank you, Forbes Walker, for the first entry in this issue's caption contest!***

***Submit YOUR entry to Darla by June 12!***

Be sure to check the next issue of BESS News for entered captions as well as the winner!



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Mayor Bill Haslam reviews a project.



Dr. Gary Lessman presents the Team Champion Trophy to Alborz Bejnood and Katherine Xue of Oak Ridge High for their project *"From Sequence to Structure: Linking Genomic and Biochemical Information to Identify and Optimize Cellulolytic Bacteria."* They went on to place 2<sup>nd</sup> in their division at the International Science & Engineering Fair.

## 2009 Southern Appalachian Science & Engineering FAIR



Judges scrutinize an entry.



Fair manager Julie Werner at the registration table.



More than 300 projects from over 330 students fill Thompson-Boling Arena



Sandra Marine (l) assists Dr. Joanne Logan (r) at the fair.

# STUDENT NEWS

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Be sure to check out the story on [“Volunteers Without Borders”](#)

## CASNR NEWS

### SUMMER TERM - CALENDAR

#### **Summer Term (Mini, First, Full and Second) 2009**

May 6 – 27 Mini-term

May 25 Memorial Day closing, no classes

UT GO opens for mini-term grade submissions (open 7 am to midnight Monday through Saturday; noon to midnight Sunday)

June 1 Summer full term and first session start

UT GO **closes** for mini-term grade submissions; last submission by noon *Undergraduate students*: First day to apply for summer 2009 graduation

June 29 UT GO opens for first session, summer term grade submissions (open 7 am to midnight Monday through Saturday; noon to midnight Sunday)

July 2 Summer first session term ends

July 3 Independence Day closing, no classes

July 6 Summer second session term starts

July 7 UT GO **closes** for first session, summer term grade submissions; last submission by noon

August 1 Department committee assignments due to the Office of the Dean, 125 Morgan Hall

August 4 UT GO opens for second session and full summer term grade submissions (open 7 am to midnight Monday through Saturday; noon to midnight Sunday)

August 6 Summer full term and second session classes end

*Undergraduate students*: Last day to apply for spring 2010 graduation

August 11 UT GO **closes** for second session and full summer term grade submissions; last submission by noon

August 14 Official summer graduation date (no ceremony)

August 20 Fall semester 2009 classes start

*Undergraduate students*: First day to apply for fall 2010 graduation



## **USDA/AFRI Integrated Programs webpage.**

Webinars of the workshop for USDA/AFRI integrated programs are now available on the following website.

[http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/integrated/integrated\\_resources.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/integrated/integrated_resources.html) .

There are several webinars on important aspects of the Integrated Program grants opportunity. Also included are several examples of successful proposals.

Please take a look at these resources. Historically, the Integrated Programs section has fewer submissions and a greater success rate.

## **New Multi-State Project Announced:**

**W\_TEMP2761 "Animal, Economic, Environmental, Genetic, Human, Nutritional and Plant Aspects of Grass fed Beef"**

***Please let Darla O'Neill know if you need help with needed forms and application process for this opportunity.***

Appendix E must be submitted via NIMSS no later than **06/15/2009**

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To View the Proposal:

1. Go to the National Information Management Support System at <http://nimss.umd.edu>
2. Insert your login and password. (If you don't have a login ID, you'll need to register, also at the URL above.)
3. In theTop Menu, Select Project then Select View Projects
4. Enter the project number, W\_TEMP2761

\*\*\*\*\*

To Create and Submit an Appendix E for a Proposed Project:

1. Go to the National Information Management Support System at <http://nimss.umd.edu>
2. Insert your login and password. (If you don't have a login, you'll need to register, also at the above URL.)
3. In theTop Menu, Select Participants then Select Draft/Edit
4. On the Left side Menu, Select "Draft New"
5. Select the project number W\_TEMP2761
6. Fill out the form.
7. Click on Submit.

Thank you. Please contact the Administrative Advisor (Ronald S. Pardini) if you have questions about the proposed project.

Contact your System Administrator (in your Executive Director's office) if you have questions about the use of NIMSS.

# EXTENSION NEWS

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## **CSREES Announces the Availability of Grant Funds and Requests Applications for the Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP)**

Program Areas of Emphasis – FY 2009 Funding Cycle

Veterinary Medicine (First Professional Degree in Veterinary Medicine i.e., D.V.M.)

Agricultural Sciences and Engineering for Bioenergy – specifically in agronomy, agricultural process engineering, agricultural biotechnology, and crop science to address the workforce demands for expertise to meet demands of a renewable energy economy

Natural Resource Sciences Training – particularly transdisciplinary training programs in sciences for food and agricultural sustainability to find solutions for real world issues relating to water, energy, effects of global change on environmental sustainability, and land use management relating to food, feed, energy, and fiber

Human Sciences Training – specifically addressing the rural/urban interface as it pertains to food and agricultural sciences, including specialty crops and markets and trade, agricultural communication, and the links to economics and social policy

Food Science and Human Nutrition Training – specifically focused on development of food and agricultural science expertise to address diet, health and safety

Agrosecurity Science Training – specifically addressing food and agricultural science impacts on animal and crop health, including insect and pest management

## **Office of Research Listservs:** (extracted from e-mail to Tim Fawver from Jim Mazzouccolo - Office of Research)

The Office of Research has currently five listserves for sending opportunity announcements out on high profile, time sensitive (within 6-8 weeks due date from time of solicitation release) funding opportunities: one for NSF announcements, one for NIH announcements, one for DOE announcements, one for limited submission opportunities and finally a “combined” listserv which contains the subscribers from the NIH, NSF, DOE and limited submissions listserves. The office also announces opportunities on our website and in our News and Opportunities Newsletter.

It is the goal of the Office of Research to grow research and to be inclusive while doing so. Please let me know if you (and anyone else who might benefit) would like to subscribe to any or all of our listserves so that you may inform your researchers about funding opportunities.

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# UTIA NEWS

## No news this issue